

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1. (Previously presented) An immunostimulating peptide comprising an amino acid sequence X₁LYQYMDDV (SEQ ID NO:1), wherein X₁ is any hydrophobic amino acid.

Claim 2. (Previously presented) The immunostimulating peptide of claim 1, wherein the amino acid sequence is VLYQYMDDV (SEQ ID NO:2).

Claim 3. (Currently amended) A ~~medicament~~ composition comprising:
i) the immunostimulating peptide of claim 1; and
ii) ~~a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient~~.

Claim 4. (Currently amended) The ~~medicament~~ composition of claim 3, further comprising an immunostimulant.

Claims 5-6. (Canceled)

Claim 7. (Currently amended) An immunostimulating peptide or protein comprising the sequence X₁X₂LYQYMDDVX₃ (SEQ ID NO:4) wherein X₁ is a sequence of amino acid residues of between 0 and 200 residues in length; X₂ is any hydrophobic amino acid; and [,] X₃ is a sequence of amino acid residues of between 0 and 200 residues in length.

Claims 8-16. (Canceled)

Claim 17. (Previously presented) A peptide or protein comprising an amino acid sequence X₁LYQYQMDDV (SEQ ID NO:1), wherein X₁ is any hydrophobic amino acid.

Claim 18. (Previously presented) The peptide or protein of claim 17, further comprising an acetylated N-terminus.

Claim 19. (Original) The peptide or protein of claim 17, further comprising a modification to the C-terminus, the modification selected from the group consisting of amidation, esterification, and reduction of a C-terminal amino acid carboxyl group.

Claims 20.-21. (Canceled)

Claim 22. (Previously presented) The immunostimulating peptide of claim 1, wherein the amino acid sequence X₁LYQYQMDDV (SEQ ID NO:1) is conjugated to a heterologous molecule to form a fusion molecule.

Claim 23. (Previously presented) The immunostimulating peptide of claim 22, wherein the heterologous molecule comprises an amino acid sequence for an HIV-1 viral protein.

Claim 24. (Previously presented) The immunostimulating peptide of claim 22, wherein the molecule comprises a glycolipid, a glycoprotein, a lipoprotein, or a nucleoprotein.

Claim 25. (Previously presented) The immunostimulating peptide of claim 22, further comprising an amino acid sequence for an immunostimulating carrier protein.

Claim 26. (Previously presented) The immunostimulating peptide of claim 22, wherein the heterologous molecule comprises a T helper peptide.

Claim 27. (Previously presented) The immunostimulating peptide of claim 26, further comprising a spacer molecule linking the immunostimulating peptide to the T helper peptide.

Claim 28. (Currently amended) The immunostimulating peptide of claim 1, wherein the immunostimulatory immunostimulating peptide is prepared synthetically.

Claim 29. (Currently amended) The immunostimulating peptide of claim 1, wherein the immunostimulatory immunostimulating peptide is prepared recombinantly.

Claim 30. (Previously presented) The immunostimulating peptide of claim 1, wherein the amino acid sequence is YLYQYMDDV (SEQ ID NO:3).

Claim 31. (Previously presented) The immunostimulating peptide of claim 1, pulsed onto a dentritic cell.

Claim 32. (Canceled)

Claim 33. (Previously presented) An immunostimulating peptide consisting of an amino acid sequence X₁LYQYMDDV (SEQ ID NO:1), wherein X₁ is any hydrophobic amino acid.

Claim 34. (Previously presented) The immunostimulating peptide of claim 33, wherein the amino acid sequence is VLQYQYMDDV (SEQ ID NO:2).

Claim 35. (Previously presented) The immunostimulating peptide of claim 33, wherein the amino acid sequence is YLYQYMDDV (SEQ ID NO:3).

Claim 36. (Currently amended) The immunostimulating peptide of claim 33, wherein the immunostimulatory immunostimulating peptide is prepared synthetically.

Claim 37. (Currently amended) The immunostimulating peptide of claim 33, wherein the immunostimulatory immunostimulating peptide is prepared recombinantly.

Claim 38. (Previously presented) The immunostimulating peptide of claim 33, pulsed onto a dentritic cell.

Claim 39. (Currently amended) The immunostimulating peptide or protein according to claim 7, wherein the amino acid sequence is $X_1VLYQYMDDVX_3$ (SEQ ID NO:5).

Claim 40. (Currently amended) The immunostimulating peptide or protein according to claim 7, wherein the amino acid sequence is $X_1YLYQYMDDVX_3$ (SEQ ID NO:6).

Claim 41. (Currently amended) A peptide or protein comprising an amino acid sequence $X_1X_2YQYMDDVX_3$ (SEQ ID NO:23) wherein X_1 is a sequence of amino acid residues of between 0 and 200 residues in length; X_2 is any hydrophobic amino acid; and [,] X_3 is a sequence of amino acid residues of between 0 and 200 residues in length.